



CORN



MANITOBA  
CROP  
ALLIANCE

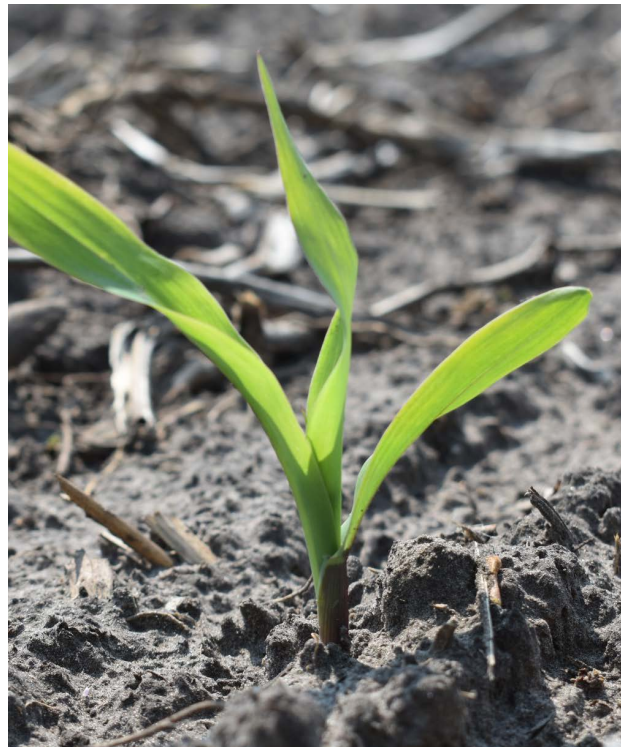
# VEGETATIVE (V) GROWTH STAGES

Corn development is categorized into vegetative and reproductive stages. Vegetative growth refers to leaf and stalk development and elongation. The vegetative stage is broken down into subdivisions, mainly identified numerically.



## VE: EMERGENCE

VE is defined as the stage where the coleoptile has emerged from the soil until just prior to the first leaf collaring.



## V1: ONE LEAF COLLAR

This stage is only defined once the first leaf collar is fully visible. The first true leaf of a corn plant is the only leaf to be rounded at the tip and is included when counting leaf collars for the full vegetative growth period.



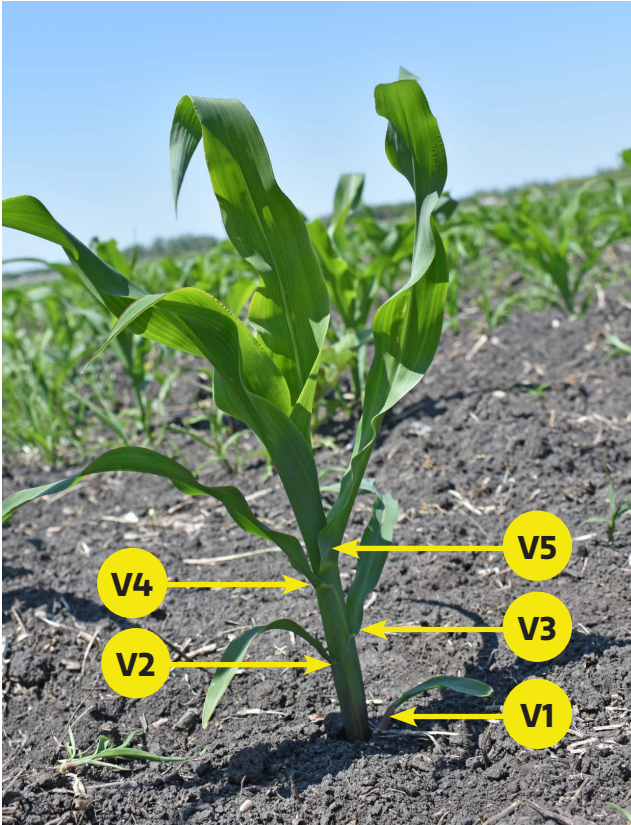
## V2: TWO LEAF COLLARS

Two leaf collars are fully visible. This second true leaf will have a pointed tip that is typical in corn plants. All leaves moving forward will bear the same resemblance.

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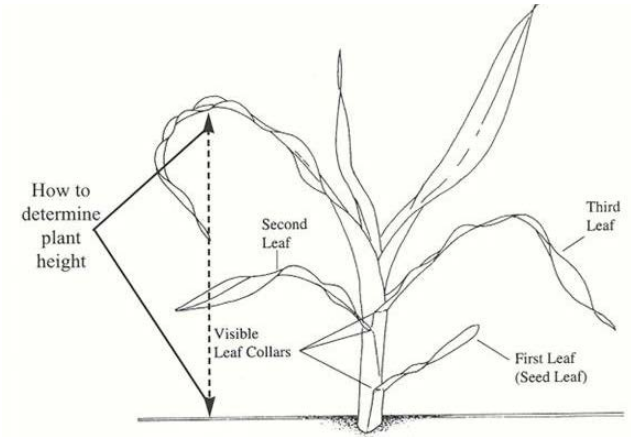
**V3, V4, V5, ...Vn: LEAF COLLARS**

Vn, where 'n' represents the last stage before VT (tasseling).



**VT: TASSELING**

When the tassel is fully emerged and extended, no longer being held in by the upper plant leaves. A corn plant remains in VT stage until any of the silk extends past the husk. This means that pollen shed can begin, even prior to entering the reproductive growth stages.



**ALTERNATE METHODS OF STAGING VEGETATIVE CORN**

**LEAF TIP METHOD:**

Count all leaves, including any leaf tips that have emerged from the whorl at the top of the plant. In the image shown, the corn plant is 6-leaf, according to the leaf tip method.

**LEAF OVER METHOD:**

Count the number of leaves, starting from the lowest leaf (the coleoptile leaf with a rounded tip) to the last leaf that is arched over (tip pointing down). Younger leaves that are standing straight up are not counted. In the image shown, the corn plant is 4-leaf, according to the leaf over method.

**LEAF HEIGHT METHOD:**

Measure from soil level to the arch of the last leaf that is fully arched over. Height is usually measured in inches when referring to herbicide applications.

**NOTE:**

*When considering a herbicide application that does not clearly state which leaf counting method is used on the label, always contact the corresponding chemical company.*



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